

eucre. It was whispered that conveniently close to Vizcaya lived a lady who had captured Deering's heart.

A slight man, he presented an impeccable figure in imported white linen as he drove his Fiat up to Buena Vista to inspect the plants growing for his estate on his brother Charles' land. He employed an Italian mechanic to baby his Fiat and drive his Rolls-Royce when he entertained guests.

Charles Deering, who already owned two castles in the Mediterranean, contented himself with a bayfront house in Cutler where the post office was now housed in a neat building instead of a wreck of a railroad car. To the house he acquired Charles Deering added a wing to hold his gallery of Spanish paintings and his collection of rare books.

The bachelor brother remained the romantic figure in the minds of Miamians. None of the splendor of the fortresslike Vizcaya with its magnificent formal gardens was visible from the road where mellow pink walls and arches of bougainvillaea enclosed the surrounding hammock but sailors reported an excellent view from Biscayne Bay.

Farther south in Coconut Grove Arthur Curtis James, once rated the second-richest man in the world and one of the twentieth century's leading railroad men, decided to build a hunting lodge. He called it Four-way Lodge. James, whose grandfather, Daniel James, had made a vast fortune in copper, silver, and gold mining as an associate of Anson Phelps and William E. Dodge, managed to triple what was left to him. An enthusiastic yachtsman he had been commodore of the New York Yacht Club and brought his yacht *Aloha* south with him. The square-rigged vessel was also converted to steam and had its own laundry and refrigeration plants. It was considered one of the finest yachts afloat.

Commodore James fitted into the Grove picture without a pinch. He had a gruff manner, but he gave tea to the boys from the Florida-Adirondack School and became in time a kind of public benefactor supplying educational funds and other assist-

By HELEN MUIR

Arthur James Curtis

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ance to deserving natives although his charities were always dealt out secretly.

It was largely through his wife's efforts that Plymouth Congregational Church (the original Union Chapel renamed) was built with its great Spanish door that for three centuries had swung in an ancient Basque building in the Pyrenees. Phillippi, a Spanish mason, was shipped to the U. S. A. with the door and for a full year he laid with loving care the beautiful rock used in the twin-belfry church.

During this period the population was steadily on the increase. All over the country people were beginning to dream about the new tropical land, not earth-shaking dreams like those of Carl Fisher or as complete in design as Merrick's but man- and woman-sized dreams. Up in Minneapolis a soft-voiced young woman named Julia Fillmore Harris, a teacher of Latin in the high school, began to dream of establishing an out-of-door school where children could learn what they had to learn under healthful conditions. Taking her winter walks in the Minnesota wind and entering the airless classrooms, she found herself more and more occupied with this idea. Because it was warm in the new city of Miami she decided to investigate the situation there. On her arrival she was assured by the Chamber of Commerce that nobody in Miami was "rich enough to send children to private schools." She was about ready to give up when a group of women from Coconut Grove offered their support. It was not until she had formed her school that she learned the advice given by one of them constituted the voice of experience and that Countess Nugent was the founder of the Baldwin School. Thus Miss Harris' Florida School was born, an institution which attracts boarders from both North and South America.

Up in Chicago Harold Dorn dreamed of giving up his bank job and raising tropical fruit in some of that Everglades land the bank was selling. Cautiously he arranged to visit Florida before buying. He made a trip to a place called Progresso which was making great claims in advertisements but which he passed by